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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Bryan W. Shirk et al.  
Serial No. : 09/817,672  
Filing Date : March 26, 2001  
For : BIODEGRADABLE VEHICLE  
COMPONENTS  
Group Art Unit : 3611  
Examiner : Lee S. Lum  
Attorney Docket No. : TRW(VSSIM)4686-1

Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1400  
September 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 24, 2003, please amend the above-  
identified application as follows:

**Amendment to the Claims**

Please amend the claims as in the following claim listing. The claim listing  
replaces all prior versions and claim listings in the application.

(Currently amended) 1. A vehicle component comprising a  
biodegradable material, said biodegradable material including a polyhydroxyalkanoate  
resin, at least one of a fiber, a continuous matrix, a filler, or a cellular material;  
the fiber, the continuous matrix, the filler, or the cellular material

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